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SANDY URBAN COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1958

OF THE



Medical Officer of Health

AND

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

The Lion Press, Sandy

Bees



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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SANDY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit the report for 1958 on the conditions relating to the Public Health in respect of the Urban District of Sandy.

A reference to the statistical table shown on page four reveals that the death rate is considerably less than that for England and Wales and much less than the rate for the district in 1957. While the chief causes of death continues to be diseases of the heart and blood vessels and cancer, it is pleasing to note that there were no deaths from the recognised infectious diseases.

In 1957 the very low birth rate of 10.5 was recorded but the rate for 1958 has reversed the position, the figure being 19.7, which was greater than the figure of 16.9 for the country as a whole. As in 1957 there was only one death of an infant under the age of one year. The reduction in the rate was due to the larger number of births recorded during the year, and the rate was the second lowest ever recorded in Sandy.

The number of infectious diseases notified was again few. One case of Poliomyelitis was notified and concerned a school child who had previously received two injections of vaccine. The disease affected the muscles of the throat causing the child some difficulty in speaking, but the recovery was fairly rapid and complete. The diagnosis was made by an examination of the stools which showed the presence of the poliomyelitis virus.

There were no new cases of or deaths from any form of Tuberculosis.

I should like to thank the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and the Clerk and Public Health Inspector for their willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. A. HARVEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	4362
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population	...	...	...	...	3840
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1958	...	...	...	...	1302
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£36,925
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£149 14s. 1d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	38	29	67
Illegitimate	...	...	3	4	7
			—	—	—
			41	33	74

Crude Birth Rate per 1000 home population	19.3
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1000 home population	19.7
Birth Rate for England and Wales	16.9

Still Births

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	0	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total birth	...	...			13.3
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales	...	...			21.6

Deaths

			Males	Females	Total
All causes	...	...	21	14	35
Crude Death Rate per 100 home population	...	...			9.1
Adjusted Death Rate per 1000 home population	...	...			9.0
Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...			11.7

Deaths from Diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :

From Sepsis	...	...	—
From other causes	...	...	—

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	1	0	1
Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
			—	—	—
			1	0	1

Rate for all infants per 1000 live births	...	...	13.5
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	22.5

Deaths from :

Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	—
Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	7

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics.

Cause of Death				Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	21	14
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	—	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	2	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	1	—
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	...	...	1	2
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	1	1
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	7	—
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	1	—
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	1	3
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	—	2
22.	Influenza	...	...	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	—	—
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	2	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	1	3
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	—	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	—	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	3	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—

STATISTICAL TABLE, 1949-1958

Year	Death Rate		Infant Mortality Rate		Birth Rate	
	Sandy U.D.	England & Wales	Sandy U.D.	England & Wales	Sandy U.D.	England & Wales
1949	11.0	11.8	18.5	32	14.8	16.7
1950	12.3	11.6	31.7	29.8	18.4	15.8
1951	12.3	12.5	32.3	29.6	16.9	15.5
1952	10.8	11.3	—	27.6	11.5	15.3
1953	8.5	11.4	15.9	26.8	16.8	15.5
1954	8.7	11.3	15.9	25.5	16.8	15.2
1955	10.6	11.7	16.7	24.9	16.0	15.0
1956	9.0	11.7	14.7	23.8	18.1	15.7
1957	13.1	11.5	24.4	23.0	10.8	16.1
1958	9.0	11.7	13.5	22.5	19.7	16.9

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers—

Medical Officer of Health—

C. A. Harvey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector—

R. W. Settle, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.

Laboratory Facilities

The services of the Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Kimbolton Road, Bedford, is available for the examination of any material submitted by the Health Department or by General Practitioners. This service is under the direction of the Medical Research Council through the Ministry of Health, and there is no charge to the Council. The Laboratory undertakes the examination of throat swabs, sputum, urine and faeces, and blood from cases of suspected infectious disease, and advice and assistance is always available.

Services provided by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946

1. Ambulance

The Bedfordshire County Council provides a complete service covering the whole of the County. The service is a twenty-four hour one and is free of charge, and is available for the removal of cases requiring admission to hospital and also for the transport of patients who are unable to use other means of transport to and from Hospitals or Clinics, so that they can receive any necessary treatment. The request for the provision of an ambulance must be made by a General Practitioner or by an Authorised Person.

The service is also available for the transport of persons suffering from infectious disease to isolation hospital.

The following depots are situated in the eastern and northern districts of the County :

Biggleswade... Crab Lane	...	Tel.—Biggleswade 2295
Bedford	... Bedford Road,	
	Kempston	... Tel.—Bedford 5335 & 5336

2. Midwifery and Domociliary Nursing

Name and Address of Nurse—
Miss E. Callander, 68 St. Neots Road, Sandy, Beds.
*Tel. No.—*Sandy 105

3. Health Visiting

Name and Address of Health Visitor—
Miss M. C. Ramsey, 81 High Street, Blunham, Beds.

4. Clinic

Child Welfare

Church Room, Sandy—Every altrrnate Thursday afternoon

Services provided by the Regional Hospital Board

1. Venereal Disease Clinic

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing. The days and times of attendance are :

Males and Females	...	Wednesdays 5—7 pm
		Friday 3—5 pm

2. Tuberculosis Clinic

The Chest Clinic, Bedford General Hospital, Norrh Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford. The days and times of attendance are :

Tuesday	9 am to 12 30 pm 2 to 5 pm	Females All Patients
Wednesday	9 am to 12 30 pm 2 to 3.30 pm 3.30 to 5 pm	Contacts. Doctors Mini Film Clinic. (to examine films sent by Factory Doctors)
Thursday	9 am to 12.30 pm 2 to 5 pm	Males All Patients
Friday	9 am to 1 pm	B.C.G. Vaccination

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Water is supplied to the area by the Biggleswade Water Board and has proved very satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples have been taken periodically during the year and the results have shown that the supply is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. The following report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of a sample sent for examination on 4th February, 1958, is typical.

Chemical Results in parts per Million

Appearance—Clear and bright.					
Turbidity	.....	.....	.....	.....	Less than 3
Colour	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Odour	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Reaction pH	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.5
Free Carbon Dioxide	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Electric Conductivity	.....	.....	.....	.....	360
Dissolved Solids dried at 180° c	.....	.....	.....	.....	240
Chlorine present as Chloride	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.....	.....	.....	.....	160
Hardness—Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	195
Carbonate	.....	.....	.....	.....	160
Non-Carbonate	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
Nitrate Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 0
Nitrite Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen*	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen*	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.006
Metals—Iron	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent
Other Metals	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent
Oxygen absorbed	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.00
Residual Chlorine	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.00

*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar

1 day at 37 degs. C	.....	.....	.....	0 per ml.
2 days at 37 degs. C	.....	.....	.....	2 „
3 days at 20 degs. C	.....	.....	.....	2 „

	Present in	Absent from	Probable Number
Presumptive coli-aerogenes reaction	..... —ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (type 1)	..... —ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	..... —ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, just on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from metals. It is moderately hard in character and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic quality.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes as judged from the aspect of the chemical analysis.

12th February, 1958.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

(a) General Statistics

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1958

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total deaths registered
Pneumonia	13	...	...
Measles	6	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	7	...
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ..	1	1	...

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year ended 31st December, 1958

[illegible]

Cleansing of Verminous People. Scabies Order, 1941

Treatment for infected persons is available at the Borough Treatment Centre, Bedford, by arrangement with the Borough of Bedford. No persons received treatment during the year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

The County Council scheme for the registration and vaccination against Poliomyelitis of the age groups of children as laid down by the Ministry of Health was continued through the Eastern Divisional Medical Officer.

At the end of 1958 in the whole of Eastern Division, 6026 children had received two injections and 712 had received three injections.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The figures given below show the number of children under 15 years of age who have received protective treatment against Diphtheria, and have been given by the Eastern Divisional Medical Officer. It is still necessary to urge all parents to give their children the protection which can be had free of cost from their own doctor or at a Welfare Clinic or at School.

The number of cases of and deaths from Diphtheria have shown a remarkable decline since the introduction of immunisation and no case has been notified in the district for several years. In order to ensure that outbreaks of this disease will not occur in the future, it is necessary that at least 75 per cent. of all children under the age of 15 years should be protected effectively against the disease, i.e., they should have had either a primary immunisation or a "booster" injection within the last five years.

Protection against Whooping Cough

Since 1st November, 1956, the County Council have made facilities available for the protection against Whooping Cough of young children who have not had the disease and whose parents are desirous of having such protection given to their children. The Whooping Cough vaccine can be given alone or in combination with Diphtheria prophylactic.

I. Primary Immunisation during the year 1958.

Number of children during the year 1958 who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the Authority's Area (including temporary residents).								
Age at 31.12.58, i.e. born in year	Under 1 1958	1 1957	2 1956	3 1955	4 1954	5—9 1949—53	10—14 1944—48	Total under 15
Number Immunised	26	7	8	1	...	1	...	43

II. Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation

Age at date of notificaton	Number of cases notified	No. of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisation	Age at date of Death	Number of Deaths	No. of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisation
Under 1	Under 1	..	...
1	1	...	...
2	2	...	...
3	3	...	...
4	4	...	...
5—9	5—9	...	...
10—14	10—14	...	...
Totals

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of new cases, and the number of deaths in their age groups

Age Distribution of Cases and Deaths

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified and the number of deaths for the years 1949-1958.

	New Cases			Deaths		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmon'y	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmon'y	Total
1949	6	1	7	2	...	2
1950	1	1	2	...	...	...
1951	3	1	4	...	...	...
1952	2	...	2	...	...	...
1953	1	...	1	1	...	1
1954	...	...	...	...	...	...
1955	1	1	2	...	...	...
1956	1	1	2	...	...	...
1957	1	...	1	...	...	...
1958	...	...	...	...	...	...

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR FOR THE YEAR 1958

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report.

1. Drainage and Sewerage

The town is sewered along the main streets. The sewer runs from the Station Bridge, along High Street, Bedford Road, and a portion of London Road, with branches from St. Swithun's Way, Cambridge Road, Pleasant Place, Park Road, King's Road, The Avenue, Fuller's Café, Laburnum Road, Church Path, Queen's Road and South Road. A second sewer runs from Brickhill Road across the Roods into St. Neots Road opposite the Council Offices and connects to the first sewer at the junction of St. Neots Road and Bedford Road, and has a branch from Northcroft. A third commences at the Council Offices and runs north along St. Neots Road, West Road to South Road, and through the gardens of West Road to London Road, connecting to number one opposite All Saints Church, with branches from Longfield Road, East Road and South Road. A fourth commences in St. Neots Road approximately opposite East Road and runs north to London Road then south in London Road, where it connects with the first sewer at Hamlet End Farm, with a branch from Carter Street. From London Road opposite Hamlet End Farm the sewage is conveyed in a 15" main to the Sewage Disposal Works.

Swaden, Stratford Road, Station Road, Ivel Road, Tempsford Road, Beeston Green and Seddington are not sewered,

2. Rivers and Streams

The Ivel Internal Drainage Board undertake the cleaning of all streams.

3. Houses connected to Sewer, etc.

1,132 Houses connected to sewer. 97 Houses with water closets connected to septic tanks. 79 Houses with pails.

Conversions from Pails to Water Closets

Total number of conversions since 1945	...	140
--	-----	-----

4. Public Cleansing

The collection of household refuse and the emptying of pails is carried out by the Council's workmen in a seven cubic yard Karrier which is now too small for the increased number of houses which have been built and extra houses added since the war. The Karrier is supplemented by the tractor and trailer when necessary. The work is generally satisfactory.

The emptying of cesspools is carried out by contract.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :

Total number of visits made	...	...	78,587
Ashbins emptied	...	...	73,425
Privies emptied	...	...	—
Cesspools emptied	...	...	16
Pail closets emptied	...	...	4,180
Loads of refuse and night soil removed	...	...	966

Street Gullies are emptied regularly and street scavenging is done at regular intervals.

Salvage—Mixed Scrap ... 2 tons, 18 cwts.
(Value £19 0s. 3d.)

5. Public Health Inspection

The following inspections were made and nuisances abated or defects remedied by informal action.

Housing defects	...	...	...	1380
(including Council Houses)				
Unfit Houses	...	...	...	11
Water Wastage	...	...	...	16
Routine Inspections	...	...	..	470

6. Shops

No action with regard to shops was found necessary.

7. Factories and Workshops

There are 37 Factories and Workshops on the Register and 123 visits have been made.

Builders	} 10	Electrician	1
Joiners		Millers	4
Painters		Motor Engineers.....	8
Plumbers		Printers	2
Bakers	2	Saddlers	2
Boot Repairers	3	Stone Mason	1
Cycle Repairers	1	Coach Builder	1
Gas Works	1	Clothing Factory	1
Packing Plastic Goods	1	Scaffolding and Form Work.....	1

Administration of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part I of Act

INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Ocoupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorites	38	140	...	...
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority				
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	...	...	...	...
Total	38	140	...	...

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness
Overcrowding
Inadequate Ventilation
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient
(b) Unsuitable or defective
(c) Not separate for sexes
Other Offences against the Act not including offences relating to outwork
Total

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1)c	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises
Wearing apparel making, etc.	5	...	...	...

Section 111

Notices served—NIL.

Prosecutions—NIL.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply

3 Persons are registered under the Milk and Dairies Order.
 1 Cowkeeper and wholesale Purveyor of Milk.
 2 Retail Purveyors only.

(b) Meat and Other Foods

There are no slaughter houses in the Urban District.

Shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared have been duly inspected and found to be in good order.

Voluntary surrender of the undermentioned foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption has been made.

Imported and Home-killed Meat	Corned Beef 6 lbs.
Canned Fruit and Vegetables	73 cans

(c) Ice Cream

Eleven premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream. It is purchased from reputable manufacturers. Ice cream is not manufactured in the Urban District.

Sewage Disposal Works

There are now 1,132 houses connected to the sewer. The majority of the houses along the High Road have now been connected up to the sewer. The sewage from The Baulk and the High Road is forced over the River Ivel by means of two electric motors, automatic float control and squirrel cage type pumps situated in The Baulk.

The motors and pumps have given excellent results, and require the minimum of attention.

The sewage arrives at the works 13' 3" below ground level, and forced to the Continuous Flow Tanks by two Mirlees-Watson Electric Motors and centrifugal pumps. The motors have given an excellent performance. The motors are automatic and are governed by electrodes.

Several samples of the effluent were taken during the year and submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories for examination, the analysis of which proved satisfactory.

Number of visits made to Sewage Works approx. 400.

Summary of Electricity Consumed

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
January	1070	949	1373	1021	1230	1387	1006	1122
February	1130	867	1215	1051	1013	999	1120	1054
March	1248	1203	1162	1109	1072	1173	1075	1100
April	1264	1048	1084	1008	1034	1013	901	959
May	1162	1132	1132	1105	1275	1069	1003	975
June	1115	979	1126	1045	1214	1252	884	1280
July	1080	995	1163	969	1063	1066	994	1258
August	1077	1130	889	1183	1068	1095	920	1010
September	932	991	1394	974	989	1085	944	1015
October	863	1166	1021	959	1099	1154	946	1056
November	1083	1306	1042	1102	1157	920	933	1037
December	935	1473	987	1206	1123	1039	1033	1142

Rainfall

	Total	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours		No. of days with	
		Inches	Date	.01 or over	.04 or over
January	2.02	.57	28	12	10
February	1.91	.64	24	13	9
March	1.22	.27	30	11	9
April .....	.61	.19	5	8	5
May	1.53	.56	29	12	12
June	5.08	1.28	26	16	15
July	2.72	.88	1	13	11
August	2.51	.75	12	20	12
September ...	2.40	.68	5	11	8
October	1.91	.34	12	17	12
November ...	1.75	.63	1	9	8
December ...	2.32	.36	10	19	15
	<hr/> 25.98			<hr/> 161	<hr/> 126

Council Houses Painted

1946	...	14	1953	...	83
1947	...	69	1954	...	79
1948	...	48	1955	...	81
1949	...	91	1956	...	81
1950	...	65	1957	...	89
1951	...	81	1958	...	70
1952	...	NIL			

Number of Houses owned by the Council

1945	...	225	1952	...	376
1946	...	235 (10 pre-fab bungalows)	1953	...	406
1947	...	243	1954	...	406
1948	...	301	1955	...	406
1949	...	330	1956	...	412
1950	...	340	1957	...	412
1951	...	356	1958	...	424

Number of Houses erected since 1945

	Local Authority			Private	
1946	...	10 (pre-fab bungalows)	...	...	2
1947	...	8	...	...	2
1948	...	58	...	...	3
1949	...	29	...	...	5
1950	...	10	...	...	7
1951	...	16	...	...	2
1952	...	20	...	...	8
1953	..	30	...	...	6
1954	...	NIL	...	...	5
1955	...	NIL	...	...	4
1956	...	6	...	...	1
1957	...	NIL	...	...	2
1958	...	12	...	...	3

Plans submitted during the year

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	9
Additions and Extensions	...	...	...	...	23
Garages	...	...	...	...	8
Agricultural and Horticultural Buildings	...	...	...	...	9
Advertisements	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	14

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district.

New Streets and Sewers

New Roads extended	...	...	400 yards
Sewers extended	...	...	375 yards

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their consideration and support extended to me during the year, and to the Clerk to the Council, and the staff for their kind assistance and loyal co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

REG. W. SETTLE, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.,

Surveyor.